Navigability of Rivers.

94. **MR. A. J. JOHN** (*Vaikam*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any action on the report submitted by the Special Officer appointed to investigate the navigability of rivers?

(*b*) Will they also be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the report submitted by him?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The report has only just been received and is being printed.

(*b*) A copy of the report will be laid on the table as soon as it is printed.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know which were the rivers that were investigated?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Muvattupuzha and the Pampa rivers.

Revision of Ryots' Roads Rules.

95. **MR. K. K. THOMAS** (*Kottayam*): (1) With reference to the reply to the resolution regarding Ryots' Roads Rules printed at page 892 of Volume VII of the Legislative Council Proceedings, wherein it has been promised that the revised draft rules would be published at an early date, will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken by them in the matter?

(2) If nothing has been done, will they be pleased to do so at an early date?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Chief Engineer is revising the rules. The revision of the rules will be taken up by the Government as soon as the draft rules are received from him.

Permanent Travelling Allowance to Rangers.

96. **MR. K. K. THOMAS** (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) the permanent travelling allowance given to Rangers; and

(2) whether, in view of the fact that the Rangers in the Devicolam Division are entitled to higher rates of travelling allowance, the Government will raise the travelling allowance of the Rangers whose headquarters are within the hilly regions though not technically in the "High Ranges"?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) The Rangers are at present given a P. T. A. of Rs. 25 per mensem.

(2) Officers whose headquarters are within hilly regions other than the High Ranges are also allowed to draw 25 per cent. of the travelling allowance in excess of the ordinary rates in accordance with the revised rules for payment of travelling allowance.

Communal Representation in Public Service.

97. **MR. K. K. THOMAS** (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

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(1) whether they accept the principle of communal representation in the matter of recruitment to the public service, provided the applicant possesses the required qualification ; and

(2) if the answer to part (1) is in the affirmative, what are the separate communities whose claims to separate representation are recognised by the Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (1) The principle is being tried consistently with efficiency, qualifications and the special requirements of particular appointments. Special consideration is being shown to communities backward in education so far as the exigencies of the public service permit.

(2) The present classification of communities is :—

I. Hindu.
   1. Brahmin (Malayala)
   2. Brahmin (Others)
   3. Nadar
   4. Ezhava
   5. Kammala
   6. Kshatriya (Malayala)
   7. Nair
   8. Pulaya
   9. Other depressed classes
   10. Vellala
   11. Other Hindus.

II. Mussalman.

III. Christian.
   1. Protestant
   2. Roman Catholic
   3. Syrians
      (*a*) Jacobite
      (*b*) Reformed
      (*c*) Romo-Syrian

IV. Others.

Choice of Questions for answering at the Meetings of the Council.

98. **MR. K. I. JOSEPH** (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the rules, if any, the Government are at present following in their choice of the questions they take up for answering at the meetings of the Legislative Council ; and

(*b*) if there are no such rules at present, will they be pleased to prescribe certain definite rules on the subject ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) There are no rules on the subject. But answers are furnished immediately to questions in respect of which the necessary information is available

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